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TCC
Pre-Filed Testimony
Chris Upchurch
EXH-5630_T

BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITING EVALUATION COUNCIL

In the Matter of the Application of:

DOCKET NO. EF-210011

Scout Clean Energy, LLC, for
Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC,
Applicant.

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF TCC
WITNESS CHRIS UPCHURCH

Q: Please state your name and address

A: Chris Upchurch, owner/winemaker Upchurch Vineyard.

Q: Have you prepared testimony regarding the Horse Heaven Wind Farm application?

A. Yes, my testimony is provided below.

Q: Please briefly describe your work experience and qualifications.

A: Owner/winemaker of Upchurch Vineyard

Q: Please state the address of your home and the name of the neighborhood in which it is located.

A: 32901 Vineyard View PR, Benton City, WA 99320

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Q: Please state how long you have lived at this address and why you chose to live here.

A: We have worked here since 1992 and lived here since 2007.

Q: Please describe your opinion on the effect this project will have on property value of your home and other homes in the area.

A: We feel the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Energy Project will negatively impact the desirability of this location and result in a corresponding and significant reduction to home and property values. The mass of the wind towers, obtrusive lighting pollution and long-term potential environmental impacts will have a lasting and undesirable impact on this growing area.

We spent the past 32 years promoting Red Mountain around the world and are just now starting to see Red Mountain's worldwide notoriety. Our carriers and life savings have been invested in Red Mountain and, of course, this will impact property values and developments. For us, this would be like putting a wind farm along Highway 29 in Napa. NAPA would never tolerate that.

The growing tourism that Red Mountain is creating will be impacted.

Q: Please describe your opinion of any other issues or concerns you have about the project.

1 A: It is unfair for this growing wine region to absorb all the negatives without benefiting
2 Red Mountain growers and wineries.

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5 Q: Please describe why you are testifying

6 A: I am voluntarily supporting and coordinating with the local community non-profit
7 organization Tri-City CARES. I am here to share my concerns about the impacts the
8 Horse Heaven Hills Project will have on my winery and related property, property
9 values, and the other homes/wineries in my neighborhood and other similarly situated
10 areas in Red Mountain and vicinity.
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13 I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that
14 my testimony and reports are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

15 Signed this _____ day of June, 2023, in _____.

16
17 _____ Chris Upchurch _____ /s/ _____

18 Printed Name
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